



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

28 MAY 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Beverly Hills – Man Spends \$13K in Bitcoin, Pays Undercover FBI Agent to Kill Ex-Girlfriend

(U) Authorities in Beverly Hills arrested suspect for allegedly trying to hire a hitman online to kill a woman he briefly dated. The suspect allegedly paid \$13K in bitcoin to arrange the woman's death and then wired an additional \$1,000 to the supposed hitman. The hitman was an undercover FBI agent and the suspect was arrested following a meeting when he made a final payment of \$1,000 to the FBI agent via Western Union. The investigation is ongoing and the suspected faces a sentence of 10 years in federal prison if convicted.

SOURCE: 27 May 2021, [International Business Times](#)

(U) Kern County – Law Enforcement Arrest 34 People in Joint Enforcement Operation

(U) Kern County law enforcement arrested 34 people in the Kern River Valley as part of a joint enforcement operation. The operation was conducted in partnership with the county Probation Department, Bureau of Land Management and the county Park Rangers. Arrests were made for drug possession, weapon offenses, probation violation and numerous other charges.

SOURCE: 27 May 2021, [KGET](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Smuggler Abandons Truck with Migrants 'Trapped' Inside Water Tank

(U) Edinburg – Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents found five migrants "trapped" inside of a water tank during a smuggling attempt. Agents working near US Highway 281 signaled a passenger vehicle carrying a water tank to stop for an immigration inspection. The driver of the truck refused to stop and led agents on a car chase ending when the truck drove through a property fence. The driver and two other fled the scene. Agents discovered two people under a blanket in the bed and five inside the water tank. The migrants were rescued from the tank and processed through immigration services.

SOURCE: 27 May 2021, [KVEO](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – FBI Advises APT Hackers Breached US Local Government Webserver

(U) Washington – The Federal Bureau of Investigation advised state-sponsored attackers breached the webserver of a US municipal government after hacking a Fortinet appliance. After gaining access to the local government organization's server, advanced persistent threat (APT) actors moved laterally through the network and created new domain controller, server, and workstation user accounts mimicking already existing ones. According to the FBI, the APT group will likely use this access to collect and exfiltrate data from the victim's network.

SOURCE: 26 May 2021, [US DOJ](#)

(U) District of Columbia – Russia Appears to Carry Out Hack through System Used by US Aid Agency

(U) Washington – Hackers linked to Russia’s main intelligence agency seized an email system used by the State Department’s international aid agency to burrow into the computer networks of human rights groups and other organizations that are critical of President Putin. The newly disclosed attack sent out genuine-looking emails to more than 3,000 account across more than 150 organizations that regularly receive communications from USAID. The email was implanted with code that would give the hackers unlimited access to the computer systems of the recipients. Microsoft believes the attack is ongoing.

SOURCE: 26 May 2021, [NY Times](#)

(U) Florida – Two Dead, 10 Missing after Boat Carrying Migrants Overturns Near Key West

(U) Miami – Authorities advised two people are dead and 10 others are missing after their boat overturned near the Florida Keys. The US Coast Guard responded to the incident and rescued 10 people from the water. Initial interviews with the survivors provided information that the boat was filled with Cuban migrants trying to make it to Florida.

SOURCE: 27 May 2021, [CBS Miami](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Mayoral Candidate Shot to Death

(U) Guanajuato – Authorities in Mexico reported the murder of the Citizens Movement Mayoral candidate in the state of Guanajuato. The mayor candidate was driving when unidentified assailants shot her to death, just a few hours after she attended a campaign event. She is the third candidate to be murdered ahead of the Election Day on 6 June in Guanajuato, which has the highest tallies of intentional homicides since 2018. Eighty-eight politicians have been murdered since the start of the electoral process in September 2020.

SOURCE: 26 May 2021, [Telesur News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.